



# Media Information

Columbus Division of Police  
CAP Bureau / Homicide Unit

Date: April 16, 2017 **\*\*UPDATE\*\***

Kim Jacobs, Chief of Police

For further information, contact: Det. Todd Chapman

Phone: (614) 645 - 4730  
Ext: 4730

Type of Offense/Incident: Homicide

Date: Dec. 23, 2016

Time: 12:21 AM

Location of Offense/Incident: R/O 156 S. Eureka Avenue

Zone: 3

Precinct: 19

Incident Report #: 161123469

Cruiser District: 190

Victim: Demeki Lashae Walker

Sex: F

Race: B

Age: 39

Victim:

Sex:

Race:

Age:

Victim:

Sex:

Race:

Age:

Suspect: Thomas Russell Dortch

Address: 834 Greenfield Drive 3F

43223

☒ Arrested

☐ Warrant on File

Sex: M

Race: B

Age: 31

Charges: Murder (2903.02A) Tampering w/Evidence F3

Suspect: Dawan Chester Dortch

Address: 834 Greenfield Drive 3F

43223

☒ Arrested

☐ Warrant on File

Sex: M

Race: B

Age: 24

Charges: Murder (2903.02A) Tampering w/Evidence F3

**Incident Summary:** On December 23, 2016, at approximately 12:15 a.m., Columbus Firefighters were called for an apparent trash fire in the alley behind 156 S. Eureka Avenue. Upon arrival, the firefighters encountered a small fire just off the alley and upon extinguishing the fire learned that there was a body contained therein. The firefighters, part of Engine 17, pronounced the victim, later identified as Demeki Lashae Walker, deceased at 12:21 a.m. and summoned the Columbus Police Department and CFD Arson investigators.

**\*\*\*UPDATE\*\*\***- On Friday, April 14, 2017, Homicide detectives filed Murder warrants on brothers, Thomas and Dawan Dortch for the Murder of Ms. Walker. Detectives also filed Tampering with Evidence charges on both as well. On Saturday morning, April 15, 2017, Columbus Police SWAT officers arrested both of the suspects together at the above address. The investigation continues.

This was the 103rd Homicide in Columbus, Ohio in Calendar Year 2016. Incident #161123469.

Detective Todd Chapman is the lead detective, assisted by Detective Lowell Titus.

Anyone with information regarding this incident, is asked to call the Columbus Police Homicide Unit at (614) 645-4730 or Central Ohio Crime Stoppers at (614) 461-TIPS.

Copy To: ☒ Executive Staff

☒ Bureau Commander

☒ Public Information Office

Prepared By: Sgt. Jeff Strayer #5113

Assignment: Homicide 3rd

Telephone: (614) 645 - 4730

Approved By: Sgt. Jeff Strayer #5113

Assignment: Homicide 3rd